

# COVID-19 Vaccine

Quick Reference Guide for  
Healthcare Professionals



The table below provides basic information on the proper storage, preparation, and administration of the currently authorized COVID-19 vaccine products in the United States. For additional information and detailed clinical guidance go to the manufacturer's and CDC's webpages listed.

|                               |  | Pfizer   | Moderna  | Janssen  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| <b>GENERAL</b>                | <b>EUA</b>   | <a href="http://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccine">www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccine</a> | <a href="http://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/moderna-covid-19-vaccine">www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/moderna-covid-19-vaccine</a> | <a href="http://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/janssen-covid-19-vaccine">www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/janssen-covid-19-vaccine</a> |
|                               | <b>CDC Vaccine Information</b>   | <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/index.html">www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/index.html</a>   | <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/moderna/index.html">www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/moderna/index.html</a>   | <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/janssen/index.html">www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/janssen/index.html</a>   |
|                               | <b>Manufacturer Contact information</b>  | <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.cvdvaccine.com">www.cvdvaccine.com</a><br><b>Medical information:</b> 800-438-1985<br><b>Customer service:</b> 800-879-3477  | <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.modernatx.com">www.modernatx.com</a><br><b>Medical Information:</b> 866-663-3762   | <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.vaxcheck.inj">www.vaxcheck.inj</a><br><b>Medical information:</b> 1-800-565-4008   |
| <b>STORAGE &amp; HANDLING</b> | <b>How supplied</b>  | <b>Multidose vial:</b> 6 doses   | <b>Multidose vial:</b> Maximum of 11 doses<br><b>Multidose vial:</b> Maximum of 15 doses   | <b>Multidose vial:</b> 5 doses   |
|                               | <b>Diluent</b>   | 0.9% sodium chloride (preservative-free, normal saline) provided in the ancillary kit. Do NOT use other diluent.   | None   | None   |
|                               | <b>Storage Temperatures: Before Puncture</b>   | <b>Between:</b><br>-80°C and -60°C (-112°F and -76°F) until the expiration date<br>-25°C and -15°C (-13°F and 5°F) for up to 2 weeks<br>2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 1 month (31 days).   | <b>Between:</b><br>-50°C and -15°C (-58°F and 5°F) until the expiration date<br>2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 30 days<br>8°C and 25°C (46° and 77°F) for a total of 24 hours   | <b>Between:</b><br>2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) until the expiration date.  |
|                               | <b>Storage Temperatures: After puncture</b>  | <b>Between:</b><br>2°C to 25°C (36°F to 77°F) for up to 6 hours.<br>Discard any unused vaccine after 6 hours.  | <b>Between:</b><br>2°C and 25°C (36°F and 77°F) for up to 12 hours.<br>Discard any unused vaccine after 12 hours.  | <b>Between:</b><br>2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 6 hours.<br>9°C and 25°C (47°F and 77°F) for up to 2 hours.<br>Discard any unused vaccine after these time frames.  |
|                               | <b>Transport Temperatures: Before Puncture</b>   | <b>Between:</b><br>-80°C and -60°C (-112°F and -76°F)<br>-25°C and -15°C (-13°F and 5°F)<br>2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F)  | <b>Between:</b><br>-50°C and -15°C (-58°F and 5°F)<br>2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 12 cumulative hours.   | <b>Between:</b><br>2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F)   |
|                               | <b>Transport Temperatures*: After Puncture</b>   | <b>Between:</b><br>2°C to 25°C (36°F to 77°F) for up to 6 hours.   | <b>Between:</b><br>2°C and 25°C (36°F and 77°F) for up to 12 hours.  | <b>Between:</b><br>2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 6 hours   |
| <b>Type of Vaccine</b>        | mRNA   | mRNA   | Viral vector   |  |
| <b>Age Indications</b>        | 12 years of age and older  | 18 years of age and older  | 18 years of age and older  |  |
| <b>Schedule<sup>†</sup></b>   | 2-doses, separated by 21 days. Both doses must be Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine  | 2 doses, separated by 28 days. Both doses should be Moderna vaccine  | 1 dose only  |  |
| <b>Dosage</b>                 | 0.3 mL   | 0.5 mL   | 0.5 mL   |  |
| <b>Needle gauge/length</b>    | <b>12 through 18 years of age:</b><br>22–25 gauge, 1"<br><b>19 years of age and older:</b><br>22–25 gauge, 1 – 1½" | 22–25 gauge, 1 – 1½"   | 22–25 gauge, 1 – 1½"   |  |

\*CDC recommends transporting vaccine at refrigerated or frozen temperatures.

<sup>†</sup>COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines may be administered on the same day, as well as within 14 days of each other. When deciding if to administer COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines, providers should consider whether the patient is behind or at risk of becoming behind on recommended vaccines, their risk of vaccine-preventable diseases (e.g., during an outbreak), and the reactogenicity profile of the vaccines.

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|                                   | Pfizer  | Moderna  | Janssen   |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| <b>Route</b>                      | Intramuscular (IM) injection  | Intramuscular (IM) injection   | Intramuscular (IM) injection  |
| <b>Site</b>                       | Deltoid   | Deltoid  | Deltoid   |
| <b>Thawing Frozen Vaccine</b>     | <b>Between:</b><br>2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) or<br>Room temperature up to 25°C (77°F)<br><b>Do NOT</b> refreeze thawed vaccine.   | <b>Between:</b><br>2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) or<br>8°C to 25°C (46°F to 77°F)<br><b>Do NOT</b> refreeze thawed vaccine.  | N/A   |
| <b>Mixing Vaccine</b>             | Mix vaccine with 1.8 mL of 0.9% sodium chloride (preservative-free, normal saline)  | <b>Do NOT</b> mix with any diluent   | <b>Do NOT</b> mix with any diluent  |
| <b>VACCINE ADMINISTRATION</b>     | <p><b>Contraindications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a component of the COVID-19 vaccine</li> <li>Immediate allergic reaction† of any severity to a previous dose or known (diagnosed) allergy to a component of the vaccine</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Persons who have a contraindication to an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech) may be able to receive the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine (see footnote).‡</p> <p>Persons who have a contraindication to Janssen COVID-19 vaccine may be able to receive an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (see footnote).‡</p> <p><b>Contraindications/Precautions</b></p> <p><b>Precautions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most people determined to have a precaution to a COVID-19 vaccine at their appointment can and should be administered vaccine.</li> <li>History of an immediate allergic reaction† to any other vaccine or injectable therapy (i.e., intramuscular, intravenous, or subcutaneous vaccines or therapies)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» This includes people with a reaction to a vaccine or injectable therapy that contains multiple components, one of which is a vaccine component, but for whom it is unknown which component elicited the immediate allergic reaction.</li> </ul> </li> <li>People with a contraindication to mRNA COVID-19 vaccines have a precaution to Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine, and vice versa. (see footnote).‡</li> <li>Moderate to severe acute illness</li> </ul> <p>See Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html">www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html</a></p> |  |   |
|                                   | <b>Post-Vaccination Observation</b>   | <p><b>30 minutes:</b> Persons with a history of an immediate allergic reaction of any severity to any other vaccine or injectable therapy or a history of anaphylaxis (from any cause)</p> <p><b>15 minutes:</b> All other persons</p> |   |
| <b>Most common adverse events</b> | <p><b>Injection site:</b> pain, swelling, redness</p> <p><b>Systemic:</b> fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills, fever, joint pain</p>   | <p><b>Injection site:</b> pain, swelling, redness</p> <p><b>Systemic:</b> fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills, fever, nausea, joint pain</p>  | <p><b>Injection site:</b> pain, redness, swelling</p> <p><b>Systemic:</b> fatigue, headache, muscle pain, nausea, fever</p> |

†For the purpose of this guidance, an immediate allergic reaction is defined as any hypersensitivity-related signs or symptoms, such as urticaria, angioedema, respiratory distress (e.g., wheezing, stridor), or anaphylaxis that occur within 4 hours following exposure to a vaccine or medication.

‡Consider consultation with an allergist-immunologist to help determine if the patient can safely receive vaccination. Healthcare providers and health departments may also request a consultation from the Clinical Immunization Safety Assessment COVID vax Project <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/ensuringsafety/monitoring/cisa/index.html>. Vaccination of these individuals should only be done in an appropriate setting under the supervision of a healthcare provider experienced in the management of severe allergic reactions.

- People with a contraindication to mRNA COVID-19 vaccines (including due to a known PEG allergy) have a precaution to Janssen COVID-19 vaccination. People who have previously received an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine dose but have a contraindication to a second dose should wait at least 28 days to receive Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.
- People with a contraindication to Janssen COVID-19 vaccine (including due to a known polysorbate allergy) have a precaution to mRNA COVID-19 vaccination.